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ABSTRACT

This report updates previous reports on the structure and practices of local boards of education. The information was obtained from responses to questionnaires sent to all school systems enrolling 25,000 or more students. Information reported covers the size of school boards, the number of elected and appointed boards, the meeting schedules, and member terms and compensation. (JF)

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LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION:

STATUS AND STRUCTURE

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LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION: STRUCTURE AND STATUS

This is the fourth survey the Educational Research Service has conducted on the structure and practices of local boards of education. The first was published 35 years ago; the second and third during the past 10 years.[1/] Not only is the demand for up-dated information on local school boards continuing, but inquirers are asking for data not included in the last survey, such as the proportion of women board members. Therefore, a new survey was launched in February of this year, when the questionnaire reproduced on pages 32 and 33 was sent to all school systems enrolling 25,000 or more pupils.

While the information contained in this report does not answer unique inquiries such as ERS recently received regarding the seating arrangement for the board at public meetings, it does provide information on the most frequently asked questions about local boards of education--including the number of elected and appointed boards, the number of women board members, the term of office for board members, the elections at which school board members are approved, and compensation for board members.

In addition to the February mailing of the questionnaire to the 186 school systems enrolling 25,000 or more pupils, three follow-up questionnaires were sent to nonrespondents. The response to the questionnaire, distributed by enrollment stratum, is as follows:

Enrollment stratum	Ques. sent	Replies received
Stratum 1 (100,000 or more)	27	27(100.0%)
Stratum 2 (50,000-99,999)	54	52 (96.3%)
Stratum 3 (25,000-49,999)	105	100 (95.2%)
	186	179 (96.2%)

The sections following this introduction present summary tables and discussion of the responses to each question on the inquiry form. Where possible, comparisons are made with the 1964 and 1967 surveys, but it should be noted that those two surveys included school systems enrolling 12,000-24,999 pupils, while this current survey does not.

Beginning on page 12 is a list of the 179 responding school systems, together with their replies to the questions concerning number of board members, method of selecting members, term of office, schedule of regular meetings, and compensation of members.

SIZE OF SCHOOL BOARDS

(Column 2 of the system-by-system table)

As can be seen in Summary Table A, on page 2, the sizes of the 179 school boards in this survey range from five to 19, a seven-member board being the most common. A great majority (89.4 percent) have fewer than 10 members. As the following figures indicate, the percentage of boards less than 10 in size has slightly but steadily increased over the past eight years:

Size of board	1964 (142 systems)	1967 (159 systems)	1972 (179 systems)
5 members	33.8%	33.3%	28.5%
7 members	40.1%	42.1%	43.0%
9 members	9.2%	10.1%	13.4%
Less than 10	85.2%	88.7%	89.4%
10 or more	14.8%	11.3%	10.6%

In all three surveys, more than 90 percent of the boards represented had an uneven number of members.

1/ Educational Research Service, American Association of School Administrators and NEA Research Division. ERS CIRCULARS:

No. 6, 1937, Size, Tenure and Selection of Boards of Education in Cities Above 30,000 in Population. 38 p.
No. 2, 1964, Local School Boards: Size and Selection. 27 p.
No. 6, 1967, Local School Boards: Status and Practices. 41 p.

(All of the above Circulars are now out of print, but are available on loan from ERS.)

SELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS
(Column 3 of the system-by-system table)

Elected vs. appointed boards. Only elected members sit on 143 of the boards responding in 1972 (79.9 percent). Boards having all elected members accounted for 75.5 percent of the 159 respondents from systems with 25,000 or more enrollment in the 1967 survey, and for 71.1 percent of the 142 systems in the 1964 survey. The methods of selecting board members in the 179 systems represented in this current survey are summarized in Table B, on page 3.

Partisan vs. nonpartisan elections. Among the school systems with 25,000 or more pupils, the percentage of elected boards with members chosen in nonpartisan elections continues to grow--86.7 percent in 1972, as compared with 81.7 percent in 1967 and 76.2 percent in 1964.

A few of the school systems which reported the election of board members on a partisan basis in this survey had reported nonpartisan elections in 1967. From the remarks of respondents in several of these sytems, it appears that the elections were reported as nonpartisan in 1967 because only one party had ever nominated candidates in school board elections. With the growth of the Republican Party in the South, these elections are now two-party elections and thus have become partisan.

Nomination of candidates. Only two of the 143 elected boards reported methods of nominating candidates other than by self-nomination. In one

Table A

SUMMARY: SIZE OF SCHOOL BOARDS

Number of members	Number and percent of systems responding			
	Stratum 1	Stratum 2	Stratum 3	Totals
Elected				
5 members	3 (11.1%)	16 (30.8%)	26 (26.0%)	45 (25.1%)
6 members	...	1 (1.9%)	5 (5.0%)	6 (3.4%)
7 members	9 (33.4%)	22 (42.4%)	29 (29.0%)	60 (33.5%)
8 members	...	...	2 (2.0%)	2 (1.1%)
9 members	2 (7.4%)	4 (7.7%)	8 (8.0%)	14 (7.8%)
10 members	1 (3.7%)	...	...	1 (0.6%)
11 members	2 (7.4%)	1 (1.9%)	...	3 (1.6%)
12 members	1 (3.7%)	1 (1.9%)	1 (1.0%)	3 (1.6%)
13 members	1 (3.7%)	...	...	1 (0.6%)
14 members	...	...	1 (1.0%)	1 (0.6%)
15 members	1 (3.7%)	...	1 (1.0%)	2 (1.1%)
16 members	...	...	1 (1.0%)	1 (0.6%)
18 members	...	1 (1.9%)	1 (1.0%)	2 (1.1%)
19 members	...	...	1 (1.0%)	1 (0.6%)
Appointed				
5 members	1 (3.7%)	1 (1.9%)	4 (4.0%)	6 (3.4%)
7 members	...	3 (5.8%)	11 (11.0%)	14 (7.8%)
9 members	4 (14.8%)	1 (1.9%)	4 (4.0%)	9 (5.0%)
11 members	2 (7.4%)	...	1 (1.0%)	3 (1.6%)
15 members	...	1 (1.9%)	...	1 (0.6%)
Self-perpetuating				
7 members	...	...	1 (1.0%)	1 (0.6%)
Some elected/some appointed				
7 members	...	...	2 (2.0%)	2 (1.1%)
9 members	...	...	1 (1.0%)	1 (0.6%)
TOTALS	27 (100.0%)	52 (100.0%)	100 (100.0%)	179 (100.0%)

Table B

SUMMARY: METHODS OF SELECTING BOARD MEMBERS

Method of selection	Number and percent of systems responding			
	Stratum 1	Stratum 2	Stratum 3	Totals
Elected				
Partisan basis	3	7	9	19
Nonpartisan basis	17	39	68	124
Total elected	20 (74.1%)	46 (88.5%)	77 (77.0%)	143 (79.9%)
Appointed				
By city or county council	1	2	9	12
By mayor	2	1	4	7
By governor	2	1	1	4
By two agencies/individuals[a/]	1	1	4	6
By other agency/individual[b/]	1	1	2	4
Total appointed	7 (25.9%)	6 (11.5%)	20 (20.0%)	33 (18.4%)
Self-perpetuating	...	...	1 (1.0%)	1 (0.6%)
Some elected/some appointed[c/]	...	...	2 (2.0%)	2 (1.1%)
GRAND TOTALS	27 (100.0%)	52 (100.0%)	100 (100.0%)	179 (100.0%)

a/ Includes one system where appointment is by the mayor and city council; one system where appointment is by the mayor and common council; two systems where the mayor and judge of the circuit court appoint members; one system where the mayor and township trustees appoint members; and one system where appointment is by the city council and the county board of education.

b/ Includes one system where board members are appointed by the borough presidents; one system where appointment is by the court of common pleas; one system where appointment is by the county grand jury; and one system where appointment is by the county court.

c/ Includes one system where four members are appointed by the county commissioners and five are elected on a partisan basis; and one system where two members are appointed by the local Academy Board (see footnote 3/, on page 25) and five are elected on a partisan basis.

of these systems, with a partisan election, nomination is in party caucus. The other system reported that prominent citizen groups nominate candidates. In some responding systems candidates must submit a petition signed by a prescribed number or percentage of voters. In other systems personal filing of candidacy with the election board or similar authority is all that is needed to be placed on the ballot. In 33 responding systems, most of them with partisan elections, survival in a primary is necessary before candidates' names can be placed on the election ballot.

Types of elections. Respondents were asked to indicate in what type of election board members are finally elected. All of the systems where board members are chosen on a partisan basis checked the general election in November. The breakdown for systems with nonpartisan election of board members is as follows:

Special election	53 (42.7%)
General election	47 (37.9%)
Municipal election	15 (12.1%)
Primary election	9 (7.3%)

The "primary election" category covers both Congressional and municipal primaries. When the types of elections are analyzed by size of school system, general elections are most common among the Stratum 1 school systems (11 of 17), while special elections are more popular in the Stratum 3 systems (38 of 68 responding).

Also, the smaller the school system, the more likely the municipal election will be the one in which school board members are elected.

Appointed boards. Appointed boards of education predominate in certain states--Indiana, Maryland, and Virginia, for instance. These three states alone account for 18 of the 33 appointed boards in the survey. The most frequently named appointing agency was the city or county council (or board of supervisors). The mayor and the governor were the individuals most frequently named. The footnotes to Table B list the other individuals and agencies which alone or together appoint board members in the remaining systems.

The questionnaire form also asked respondents to indicate whether the agency or individual appointing board members receives recommendations from any official or informal body. The majority of the systems (20) said no. Among the advisory groups mentioned by the other 13 systems were the State Central Committee, the Education Committee of the County Council, local judges, the School Board Nominating Convention, and a citizens advisory screening committee. In one system open hearings are held.

Boards with some elected, some appointed members. Two Stratum 3 school systems--Wake County, North Carolina, and Richland County School District #1, Columbia, South Carolina--include both elected and appointed members. Explanations of these situations appear with the data for these two school systems in the system-by-system table. It should also be pointed out that in a sense, Springfield and Worcester, Massachusetts, also have appointed as well as elected members, since the mayor is by law automatically a member and the chairman of the school board.

Self-perpetuating board. The 1964 and 1967 surveys reported self-perpetuating school boards in Bibb County, Georgia, and Chattanooga, Tennessee. Bibb County is changing to an elected board in 1972. Chattanooga's still self-perpetuating board consists of seven members--six of whom are selected by the board itself for six-year terms. There is no limit to the number of terms an individual may serve, so long as his selection is confirmed by the City Commission. The seventh seat on the Chattanooga board is automatically filled by a member of the City Commission--an elected official.

Filling vacancies. Vacancies in unexpired terms of elected board members are most commonly filled by vote of the remaining board members. As can be seen in Table C, 61.5 percent of the responding elected boards follow this procedure. Among the appointed boards, the most frequently reported practice was appointment of a new board member by the agency or individual making the original appointment (29 or 87.9 percent of the 33 appointed boards). In these cases the individual merely fills the unexpired term. On elected boards this is not always the case. Although the question was not asked, 35 systems with elected boards volunteered information on this point. Twenty-one said that the individual appointed to fill a vacancy serves only until the next scheduled school board, general, or municipal election, when he may, of course, run against other candidates for the vacated seat. In the other 14 systems supplying this information, appointment is for the remainder of the unexpired term.

TERMS OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS
(Column 4 of the system-by-system table)

Length of terms. Data on the length of terms of board members in 176 of the 179 responding school systems are summarized in Table D, on page 6. The three boards omitted from the summary are the two with some elected and some appointed members (four- and six-year terms respectively), and the self-perpetuating board (six-year terms).

While four-year terms were most frequently reported for elected boards (89 or 62.2 percent), five-year terms predominate among appointed boards (13 or 39.4 percent), with four-year terms reported by the next smaller number of appointed boards (eight or 24.2 percent).

Members serve four-year terms in 55.1 percent

of the 176 boards, five-year terms in 10.2 percent, and six-year terms in 21.6 percent. In the 1967 survey, 49.0 percent of the systems with 25,000 or more pupils reported four-year terms for board members, 8.2 percent reported five-year terms, and 28.3 percent reported six-year terms. The question was not asked in the 1964 survey.

Staggered vs. concurrent terms. The questionnaire included an inquiry as to whether terms of board members are staggered or concurrent. Only eight systems reported concurrent terms. All eight have elected boards--seven elected on a nonpartisan basis and one on a partisan basis. The terms of the members of the eight boards are four years in four systems, three years in one system, and two years in three systems.

Limit on number of terms. In response to a question as to whether any limitation had been placed on the number of successive terms a board member may serve, nine systems replied in the affirmative. Seven of the nine systems so replying have appointed boards. Eight of the nine boards limit members to two successive terms; one appointed board in Stratum 3 has a limit of three successive terms for members.

One board is tabulated in Table D as having indefinite terms for members. Seats on this board, which serves the Henrico County, Virginia, schools, are filled by the County Board of Supervisors (an

Table C

SUMMARY: METHODS OF FILLING VACANCIES IN UNEXPIRED TERMS

Method of filling vacancy	Number and percent of systems responding			
	Stratum 1	Stratum 2	Stratum 3	Totals
Elected boards				
Vote of remaining members	14 (70.0%)	27 (58.7%)	47 (61.0%)	88 (61.5%)
Appointment by governor	5 (25.0%)	9 (19.5%)	6 (7.8%)	20 (14.0%)
Special election	...	3 (6.5%)	14 (18.2%)	17 (11.9%)
Appointment by mayor	1 (5.0%)	1 (2.2%)	2 (2.6%)	4 (2.8%)
Appointment by county superintendent	...	1 (2.2%)	2 (2.6%)	3 (2.1%)
Runner-up in previous election	...	1 (2.2%)	1 (1.3%)	2 (1.4%)
Other procedures[a/]	...	4 (8.7%)	4 (5.2%)	8 (5.6%)
No reply	...	...	1 (1.3%)	1 (0.7%)
Total responding[b/]	20 (100.0%)	46 (100.0%)	77 (100.0%)	143 (100.0%)
Appointed boards				
Appointment by appointing agency	7 (100%)	6 (100.0%)	16 (80.0%)	29 (87.9%)
Vote of remaining members	...	...	4 (20.0%)	4 (12.1%)
Total responding	7 (100.0%)	6 (100.0%)	20 (100.0%)	33 (100.0%)

a/ Includes systems where vacancies are filled as follows: (1) in caucus of mayor and city council; (2) appointment by board of education president; (3) appointment by chief state school officer; (4) appointment by county board of commissioners; (5) appointment by school board, but if vacancy occurs more than six months before the next general election, the appointment is valid only until the election; (6) election in special election if more than 120 days remain in the unexpired term, appointment by board if less time remains; (7) election in general election if vacancy occurs in general election year and more than one year remains in the term--otherwise appointment by board; and (8) appointment by board unless electorate petitions for a special election.

b/ Totals do not include three of the participating school systems--the two with some elected and some appointed board members, and the one with a self-perpetuating board.

elected county council) until the Board of Supervisors votes to replace one or more members, or a seat is vacated by a member. In Springfield and Worcester, Mass., where the mayor is automatically a board member, he retains his seat only as long as he is mayor.

AREAS REPRESENTED BY BOARD MEMBERS

The questionnaire asked respondents to indicate whether board members serve as board members from the district at large, from specific geographic or political subdivisions, or some at large and some representing areas. Among the 176 with entirely elected or appointed members responses were distributed as follows:

	Elected boards	Appointed boards	Totals
At large	101 (70.6%)	26 (78.8%)	127 (72.2%)
Subdivisions	25 (17.5%)	5 (15.1%)	30 (17.0%)
Some at large, some areas	17 (11.9%)	2 (6.1%)	19 (10.8%)

The members of the self-perpetuating board serve at large. On one of the two boards with some elected and some appointed members, the members serve at large; on the other of these boards, some members serve at large and the remainder represent specific subdivisions.

The very large school systems in Stratum 1 reported a higher percentage of board members serving the district at large than did the systems in Stratums 2 and 3. Several respondents from systems with appointed boards pointed out that, although the members serve the district at large, effort is made to appoint members to represent various areas, socioeconomic levels, and ethnic interests in the community.

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

This is the first ERS survey of school boards which has included a question to determine who serves as board secretary--an office which in some systems is filled by the superintendent or a board member and in others by another member of the central office staff. Re-

Table D

SUMMARY: LENGTH OF TERM OF BOARD MEMBERS

Length of term	Elected boards				Appointed boards				GRAND TOTALS
	Stratum 1	Stratum 2	Stratum 3	Totals	Stratum 1	Stratum 2	Stratum 3	Totals	
2 years	1 (5%)	1 (2%)	1 (1%)	3 (2%)	...	1 (17%)	...	1 (3%)	4 (2%)
3 years	1 (5%)	...	12 (16%)	13 (9%)	1 (14%)	...	3 (15%)	4 (12%)	17 (9%)
4 years	15 (75%)	29 (63%)	45 (58%)	89 (62%)	1 (14%)	...	7 (35%)	8 (25%)	97 (55%)
5 years	...	2 (4%)	3 (4%)	5 (4%)	3 (43%)	3 (50%)	7 (35%)	13 (39%)	18 (10%)
6 years	3 (15%)	14 (31%)	16 (21%)	33 (23%)	2 (29%)	2 (33%)	1 (5%)	5 (15%)	38 (22%)
7 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 (5%)	1 (3%)	1 (1%)
Indefinite	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 (5%)	1 (3%)	1 (1%)
Totals[a/]	20(100%)	46(100%)	77(100%)	143(100%)	7(100%)	6(100%)	20(100%)	33(100%)	176(100%)

[a/] Totals do not include three of the participating school systems--the two with some elected and some appointed members (four-year terms in one, six-year terms in the other), and the one with a self-perpetuating board (six-year terms).

sponses to this question were received from 175 systems, as follows:

	Enrollment stratums 1	2	3	Totals
Superintendent	10 (37.0%)	26 (51.0%)	40 (41.2%)	76 (43.4%)
Person specially hired	13 (48.2%)	14 (27.4%)	18 (18.6%)	45 (25.7%)
Board member	2 (7.4%)	6 (11.8%)	23 (23.7%)	31 (17.7%)
Business manager	2 (7.4%)	4 (7.8%)	5 (5.2%)	11 (6.3%)
Other central office administrator	..	..	8 (8.2%)	8 (4.6%)
Stenographer from central office	..	1 (2.0%)	3 (3.1%)	4 (2.3%)
	27 (100.0%)	51 (100.0%)	97 (100.0%)	175 (100.0%)

It will be noted that, as might be expected, the percentage of systems which have hired an individual to serve as board secretary decreases with each smaller enrollment stratum.

COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

A question as to whether the board is organized with standing committees received the following responses from the 179 participating school systems:

	Stratum 1	Stratum 2	Stratum 3	Totals
No	11	32	65	108
Yes:				
1 committee	..	2	5	7
2 committees	1	1	5	7
3 committees	..	4	8	12
4 committees	4	4	6	14
5 committees	1	2	4	7
6 committees	3	5	1	9
7 committees	..	..	2	2
9 committees	1	..	1	2
11 committees	1	1	..	2
13 committees	1	..	1	2
14 committees	..	..	1	1
16 committees	1	..	..	1
Not specified	3	..	..	3
No reply	..	1	1	2

Expressed in percentages, 61 percent of the 177 boards for which replies to this question were received do not operate with standing committees. The Stratum 1 school systems are more likely to have standing committees than school systems in the other two enrollment groups. The percentage of Stratum 1 systems with standing committees is 59.3 percent; for Stratum 2, 37.3 percent; and for Stratum 3, 34.3 percent.

As noted above, seven of the 177 systems replying to this question operate with only one standing committee; this is usually an executive committee. Among those with multiple committees, the most frequently mentioned areas of responsibility were finance or budget and facilities (buildings and grounds, construction, etc.). Personnel, instruction/curriculum, and community relations, in that order, were the next most common committees. The variety of committee areas is practically endless; some reflect local concerns or local emphasis.

One school system, Wichita, Kansas, reported an alternative to standing committees. Although the board meets as a committee of the whole, nine "functional areas and issues" have been identified and a board member assigned as resource person in each area. Additionally, an administrative contact in the central office is assigned for each of the nine areas.

SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

(Column 5 of the system-by-system table)

Responses to the question regarding the schedule for regular board meetings revealed that about two-thirds of the boards meet twice a month. In another one-fourth, only one meeting is held each month. Seven boards hold four regular meetings a month, and the board in Los Angeles, California, meets twice a week, year-round.

The majority of the responding boards meet on the same schedule each month. Only 13 boards reported that they meet less frequently or not at all in certain months--chiefly July and August--although one board reported an altered schedule for December.

Tuesday was most commonly reported as the day on which regular board meetings are held, with Monday, Thursday, and Wednesday in descending order of frequency. Only one system schedules board meetings on Friday. Noteworthy is the fact that all of the systems where the board meets more than twice a month named Tuesday as the meeting day. Nine boards which meet twice a month hold these meetings on two different days.

COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEMBERS
(Column 6 of the system-by-system table)

In the past few years, ERS has received an increasing number of inquiries regarding the practice of compensating members of boards of education. A comparison of the 1967 and 1972 surveys shows no noticeable increase in the number of school systems which have adopted this practice. However, among systems reporting in both surveys that board members are paid, the amounts paid have increased considerably.

Attention is called to the fact that the 1972 survey instrument specifically excluded from "compensation" any reimbursement to board members for expenses incurred in attending out-of-town conferences. Presumably such reimbursement is available in most school systems.

Data in Column 6 of the system-by-system table are summarized in Table E, which shows that board members in slightly over one-half (92) of the 179 systems receive no compensation. An additional 6.1 percent (11) pay only mileage or reimbursement for board-related expenses.

Among the 76 systems which pay board members on an annual, monthly, or per meeting basis, the range in amounts paid is wide. The top annual salaries ($5,500) are paid in Florida districts, which reported a top of $3,600 in 1967, while the low $36 annual salary is paid board members in one Ohio system. The top monthly salary ($417) is equivalent to an annual salary of $5,000. The high per-meeting payment ($75) is for board members in Los Angeles,

Table E

SUMMARY: COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Type of compensation[a]	Number and percent of systems responding			
	Stratum 1	Stratum 2	Stratum 3	Totals
No compensation	6 (22.2%)	24 (46.2%)	62 (62.0%)	92 (51.4%)
Expenses and/or mileage only	4 (14.8%)	5 (9.6%)	2 (2.0%)	11 (6.1%)
Annual salary	10 (37.1%)	7 (13.5%)	17 (17.0%)	34 (19.0%)[b]
Range in amounts reported	$60-$5500	$600-$5500	$36-$5000	$36-$5500
Monthly salary	5 (18.5%)	1 (1.9%)	6 (6.0%)	12 (6.7%)[c]
Range in amounts reported	$50-$300	$100	$15-$417	$15-$417
Set amount per meeting	2 (7.4%)	15 (28.8%)	13 (13.0%)	30(16.8%)[d]
Range in amounts reported	$20-$75	$10-$50	$4-$50	$4-$75
Total responding	27 (100.0%)	52 (100.0%)	100 (100.0%)	179 (100.0%)

[a] All categories are exclusive of reimbursement for expenses involved in attendance at out-of-town conferences and conventions.

[b] Includes 10 systems which reported additional amounts for mileage and/or expenses.

[c] Includes 12 systems which reported additional amounts for mileage and/or expenses.

[d] Includes 4 systems which reported additional amounts for mileage and/or expenses.

and the low $4 a meeting is paid in a Tennessee school system.

Twelve systems reporting that board members are paid by the meeting, also stipulated that the number of meetings per month or year for which a member can be paid is limited.

Eight systems reported additional salary amounts for one or more officers of the board. In six of these systems the president receives an additional amount (double in two systems); one of these six also pays the vice president an additional amount--one-half the base salary of the other members. Of the remaining two systems, one pays only the board member who serves as clerk and the other adds a supplement to the salary of the board member who holds this position.

Compensations in the category of fringe benefits were mentioned by two systems--a car and driver in a Stratum 1 system, and paid medical insurance in a Stratum 3 system. Doubtless other systems provide similar fringe benefits for board members, but the information was not requested on the inquiry form.

OFFICE SPACE AND CLERICAL ASSISTANCE

Table F summarizes by enrollment stratum the 174 responses to the question, "Are offices and clerical services furnished for individual members of the board?" As might be expected, the smaller the school system, the less likely board members are to have these advantages.

About 32 percent of the responding systems provide neither office space nor clerical assistance. Some degree of secretarial assistance is provided board members in 115 (66.1 percent) of the 174 systems; in most of these systems, secretaries are not assigned to board members, but are available on an on-call basis. Office space is provided in only 30 (17.2 percent) of the systems. The ultimate luxury, a private office and a private secretary, is afforded board members in only three systems--Los Angeles, New York City, and Boston.

Table F

SUMMARY: OFFICES AND CLERICAL ASSISTANCE FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Type of service provided	Number and percent of systems responding			
	Stratum 1	Stratum 2	Stratum 3	Totals
Office space:				
Individual offices for members	6 (22.2%)	2 (3.9%)	...	8 (4.6%)
One office for all members	6 (22.2%)	7 (13.7%)	9 (9.4%)	22 (12.6%)
No office space provided[a/]	15 (55.6%)	42 (82.4%)	87 (90.6%)	144 (82.8%)
Total responding	27 (100.0%)	51 (100.0%)	96 (100.0%)	174 (100.0%)
Clerical assistance:				
Secretary for each member	4 (14.8%)	1 (2.0%)	...	5 (2.9%)
One secretary serving all members	8 (29.6%)	7 (13.7%)	8 (8.4%)	23 (13.2%)
Two secretaries serving all members	1 (3.7%)	1 (2.0%)	...	2 (1.1%)
On-call secretarial assistance	12 (44.5%)	29 (56.8%)	44 (45.8%)	85 (48.9%)
Secretarial assistance not provided[a/]	2 (7.4%)	13 (25.5%)	44 (45.8%)	59 (33.9%)
Total responding	27 (100.0%)	51 (100.0%)	96 (100.0%)	174 (100.0%)
No reply	...	1	4	5

a/ Figures include a total of 55 school systems which reported that board members have neither office space nor clerical assistance (one system in Stratum 1, 11 in Stratum 2, and 43 in Stratum 3).

PERSONAL DATA ON BOARD MEMBERS

The composition of local boards is another topic about which ERS has received numerous inquiries. Therefore, the questionnaire asked respondents to indicate the number of members by sex, by race or ethnic background, and by occupation. The question was asked in such a way as to provide general information that would not identify individual board members nor provide distinctive categories, such as black, female architect. The data on sex and race is summarized in Table G. It is also important to remember that the composition of many of the responding boards may have changed in elections held since the questionnaires were completed.

Some generalizations can be drawn from Table G. The larger the school system, the higher the percentage of women and minority board members. Not shown in the table, but tabulated separately are such facts as:

1. Thirty-two (18.0 percent) of the boards have all male members; no board is composed exclusively of women, but one board reported more female than male members.

2. Seventy-one (39.9 percent) of the boards have no members from minority groups; on four of the boards members from minority groups predominate; one board is composed exclusively of minority members, with members of the black race in the majority on that board.

3. Twelve boards have members of two minority groups; two boards have members of three minority groups.

4. The number and percent of responding boards which have one or more members of each of the following minority groups is tabulated below:

Black	91 (51.1%)
Spanish-speaking	23 (12.9%)
Oriental	9 (5.1%)

Table G

SUMMARY: PERSONAL DATA ON SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Personal characteristics	Number of board members			
	Stratum 1	Stratum 2	Stratum 3	Totals
Sex				
Male	163 (71%)	297 (81%)	602 (84%)	1062 (81%)
Female	67 (29%)	70 (19%)	114 (16%)	251 (19%)
Race				
White	171 (74%)	320 (87%)	630 (88%)	1121 (86%)
Black	49 (21%)	33 (9%)	64 (9%)	146 (11%)
Spanish-speaking	4 (2%)	9 (3%)	14 (2%)	27 (2%)
Oriental	6 (3%)	5 (1%)	3 *	14 (1%)
No reply	...	...	5 (1%)	5 *
Vacant positions	1	...	3	4

* Less than one-half of one percent.

The question regarding occupations of board members did not provide a checklist of categories; thus tabulation of this information is difficult. Some merely indicated general categories such as professional, business, nonskilled. Others provided detailed information. Other than the category of "businessman," the following were the most frequently named professions of board members. (Percentages are based on the total of 1,313 board members for whom information was received.)

Housewife	186	(14.2%)
Lawyer	159	(12.1%)
Educator	91	(6.9%)
Medical doctor	61	(4.6%)
Government employee	50	(3.8%)
Insurance	48	(3.7%)
Retiree	45	(3.4%)
Scientist/engineer	41	(3.1%)
Clergyman	40	(3.0%)
Real estate	34	(2.6%)
Dentist	27	(2.1%)
Banker	25	(1.9%)
Contractor	22	(1.7%)
Accountant/CPA	20	(1.5%)

The term "educator" includes individuals in public and private schools at the elementary, secondary, and higher education levels. It is

also interesting to note that more than one-third (18) of the retirees are retired teachers or administrators. Only one board reported a high school student as a voting member--Fairfax County, Virginia.

A COMPOSITE PICTURE

Based on the data discussed on the preceding pages, it is possible to draw a picture of the "typical" board of education in the larger school systems. It is a seven-member board, with all members elected for staggered four-year terms on a nonpartisan basis in a special election. Should a vacancy occur on the board, leaving an unexpired term, the board members select a replacement to serve until the next school board election. The board members serve as representatives of the entire district, rather than specific geographical or political subdivisions.

The superintendent is designated as the secretary of the board. The board does not operate with standing committees. The board holds regular meetings twice a month, on Tuesday. Board members receive no compensation for serving, other than reimbursement for attendance at professional conferences and conventions. The individual board member has clerical services available to him through the central office, but no office space is provided.

The board is composed predominantly of white males. The female members of the board are housewives rather than career women. The legal, medical, and education professions are likely to be represented on the board.

SCHOOL BOARD BIBLIOGRAPHY

Beginning on page 28 is an annotated bibliography of books and articles which include discussions of the topics covered in this Circular.

This study was designed and
written by Suzanne K. Stemnock,
Professional Assistant,
Educational Research Service

SCHOOL BOARD DATA, 179 SCHOOL SYSTEMS WITH 25,000 OR MORE ENROLLMENT

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 1--ENROLLMENT 100,000 OR MORE (27 SYSTEMS)					
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.	7	Self-nomination; primary election, nonpartisan basis (run-off, if necessary, in general election)	4 years	Each Monday and Thursday afternoon	$75 a meeting, limited to 10 meetings a month
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every Tuesday	$50 a meeting
WASHINGTON, D. C.	11	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First Wednesday for community-based meetings; third Wednesday for regular meetings (September to June)	$1200 a year
BROWARD COUNTY, FLA. (Ft. Lauderdale)	5	Self-nomination; general election, partisan basis	4 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	$5500 a year + $50 a month for board-related expenses
DADE COUNTY, FLA. (Miami)	7	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	4 years	First and third Wednesdays of each month	$5500 a year
DUVAL COUNTY, FLA. (Jacksonville)	7	Self-nomination; primary election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second Monday of each month	None
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLA. (Tampa)	7	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every Tuesday except fifth Tuesday	$5500 a year + 10¢ a mile
ATLANTA, GA., city schools	10	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second Monday each month, except January	$300 a month (president, $350) + reimbursement for mileage as necessary
HAWAII--entire state (state board)	11	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	4 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	$50 a meeting + 12¢ a mile + per diem if needed
CHICAGO, ILL.	11	Appointed by mayor, subject to approval of city council	5 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	None
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.	7	Self-nomination and caucus by 2 citizen groups; primary election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and last Tuesday evenings of each month	None

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 1 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
NEW ORLEANS, LA.	5	Nomination by petition; general election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Mondays of each month	None, except board-related assignments
BALTIMORE, MD., city schools	9	Appointed by mayor and city council	6 years	Second and fourth Thursdays of each month	None
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD. (Towson)	9	Appointed by governor from names submitted by nominating convention	5 years, limited to 2 terms	Second and fourth Thursdays of each month	None
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD. (Rockville)	7	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second Tuesday of each month (all day); second Monday after second Tuesday (evening)	$4800 a year for board-related expenses
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MD. (Upper Marlboro)	9	Appointed by governor, from recommendations of state central committees	5 years, limited to 2 terms	Second Tuesday and fourth Thursday of each month	$2500 a year
DETROIT, MICH.[1/]	13	Nomination by petition; general election, nonpartisan basis (5 at large, 8 from regions)[1/]	[1/]	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	$30 per meeting
ST. LOUIS, MO.	12	Nomination by citizen groups; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second Tuesday of each month	None
NEW YORK, N. Y.[2/]	5	Appointed by presidents of boroughs (1 per borough)	4 years	Three per month (days not specified)	Per diem salary rate of $100
CLEVELAND, OHIO	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every other Thursday	$60 a year
COLUMBUS, OHIO	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	$20 a meeting

1/ The Detroit school district is decentralized. Information shown is for the central board of education which is composed of 13 members; the 8 regional boards each have 5 members. Five members of the central board are elected at large; the other 8 members are the chairmen of each of the regional boards, i.e., the individual who received the highest number of votes in the election for board membership in his district. Terms of both central and regional board members are three-year staggered terms at present. Beginning in 1973, elections will be held every two years to fill terms expiring on December 31 of an odd-numbered year; by 1977 all members will be elected for 2-year concurrent terms in odd-numbered years. Regional board members receive $20 per meeting.

2/ The New York City School system is decentralized. Information shown is for the central board of education. Each of the 31 decentralized district boards has from 7 to 15 members elected by eligible voters in each district for 2-year, unstaggered terms. Members of district boards serve without compensation.

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 1 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
PHILADELPHIA, PA.	9	Appointed by mayor from recommendations of a citizen nominating committee	6 years	Every other Monday, September to June; once a month in July and August	Car and driver provided
MEMPHIS, TENN., city schools	9	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Monday nights, each month	$5000 a year + reimbursement of board-related expenses
DALLAS, TEXAS	9	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	Second and fourth Wednesday afternoons each month	None
HOUSTON, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second Monday night of each month	None
FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA. (Fairfax)	11	Appointed by county board of supervisors; student member nominated by student advisory committee	3 years	Every other Thursday	$3000 a year + 10¢ a mile + reimbursement of board-related expenses
MILWAUKEE, WIS.	15	Self-nomination + approval in primary; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	First Tuesday of each month	$50 a month
STRATUM 2--ENROLLMENT 50,000-99,999 (52 SYSTEMS)					
BIRMINGHAM, ALA., city schools	5	Appointed by city council from recommendations of its education committees	5 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	$10 a meeting, limited to 2 regular and 1 special meeting a month
JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALA. (Birmingham)	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Fridays of each month	$25 a meeting
MOBILE COUNTY, ALA. (Mobile)	6	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	None
TUCSON, ARIZ.	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	5 years	Third Tuesday night of each month	None
FRESNO, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination; primary election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Thursdays of each month	None

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 2 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
GARDEN GROVE, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	None, except reimbursement for board-related expenses
LONG BEACH, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every Monday	$50 a meeting
OAKLAND, CALIF.	7	Self-nomination; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every Tuesday, except holidays	$50 a meeting
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.	7	Self-nomination; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every other Monday	$20 a meeting, limited to $100 a month
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.	7	Self-nomination; general or primary election, nonpartisan basis	5 years	First and third Thursdays, August to June	$1200 a year
SAN JUAN SCHOOL DISTRICT CALIF. (Carmichael)	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second, fourth, and fifth Tuesdays of each month	None
DENVER, COLO.	7	Self-nomination; special or municipal election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Third Tuesday of each month	None
JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLO. (Lakewood)	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	None, except reimbursement for board-related expenses
BREVARD COUNTY, FLA. (Titusville)	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	4 years	Second Tuesday of each month	$5000 a year ($5900 for chairman) + 10¢ a mile or reimbursement for public transportation
ORANGE COUNTY, FLA. (Orlando)	7	Self-nomination; general election, partisan basis	4 years	Second Monday of each month	$5500 a year + 10¢ a mile
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLA. (West Palm Beach)	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	$50 a meeting
PINELLAS COUNTY, FLA. (Clearwater)	7	Self-nomination; general election, partisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	$5500 a year + necessary expenses, including 10¢ a mile (total of $7500 a year for all members)
POLK COUNTY, FLA. (Barstow)	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	$5000 a year ($5900 for chairman) + 10¢ a mile or reimbursement for public transportation + reimbursement for board-related expenses

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 2 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
DE KALB COUNTY, GA. (Decatur)	7	Self-nomination; primary election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First Monday of each month	$100 a month + actual board-related expenses
WICHITA, KANS.	9	Self-nomination + approval in primary; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First Monday of each month	None
JEFFERSON COUNTY, KY. (Louisville)	5	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Mondays, September to June; fourth Monday in July and August	$10 a meeting, limited to $200 annually
LOUISVILLE, KY., city schools	5	Nomination by petition; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Mondays of each month	$500 a year for board-related expenses
CADDO PARISH, LA. (Shreveport)	18	Self-nomination; general election, partisan basis	6 years	First and third Wednesdays of each month	Set amount per meeting (amount not reported)
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH, LA. (Baton Rouge)	11	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Every Thursday and third Tuesday of each month	$40 a meeting ($80 for president) + $40 for meetings of the executive committee (limit of 5 per month) + 10¢ a mile
JEFFERSON PARISH, LA. (Gretna)	7	Self-nomination; general election, partisan basis	4 years	First Wednesday of each month	$40 a meeting + mileage
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD. (Annapolis)	7	Appointed by governor from recommendations of school board nominating convention	5 years	First and third Wednesdays of each month	$100 a month for board-related expenses
BOSTON, MASS.	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	2 years	Every other Tuesday	None
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	7	Self-nomination + approval in primary; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and last Tuesdays of each month	None
OMAHA, NEBR.	12	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Monday evenings of each month	None

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 2 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
CLARK COUNTY, NEV. (Las Vegas)	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, except on holidays	$35 a meeting, limited to 2 meetings a month, + 10¢ a mile
ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX.	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	First and third Mondays of each month	None
BUFFALO, N. Y.	7	Appointed by the mayor and Common Council	5 years	Every other Wednesday, September to June; second Wednesday in July; fourth Wednesday in August	$1500 a year
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT, N. C. (Charlotte)	9	Self-nomination; primary election, nonpartisan basis	6 years at present; plans for 4 years	Four Tuesdays each month	None
AKRON, OHIO	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every other Monday, September to May; June, July, August dates determined each spring	None
CINCINNATI, OHIO	7	Nomination by petition; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Mondays, September to June; once a month in July and August	None
DAYTON, OHIO	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every other Thursday, September to June; first Thursday in July and August	None
TOLEDO, OHIO	5	Nomination by petition; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Fourth Tuesday of each month	None
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.	7	Self-nomination + approval in primary; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First Monday of each month	$25 a meeting, limited to 4 meetings a month
TULSA, OKLA.	7	Self-nomination + approval in ward nominating election; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First Monday and third Wednesday following first Monday of each month	$25 a meeting, limited to 4 meetings a month

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 2 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
PORTLAND, OREG.	7	Nomination by petition; primary election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Monday evenings of each month	None
PITTSBURGH, PA.	15	Appointed by the Court of Common Pleas from candidates screened and selected by panel of judges	6 years	Regular board meeting--Tuesday following third Thursday of each month; public hearing--Tuesday prior to regular meeting each month	None
CHARLESTON COUNTY, S. C. (Charleston)	9	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Third Monday of each month	$10 a meeting + 10¢ a mile
GREENVILLE COUNTY, S. C.	9	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second Tuesday of each month	Reimbursement for board-related expenses (total of $5000 a year for all members)
METROPOLITAN SCHOOL SYSTEM, NASHVILLE, TENN.	9	Appointed by mayor with Metropolitan Council approval	6 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	None
AUSTIN, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second Monday evening of each month; last Wednesday afternoon of each month except December	None
EL PASO, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Third Tuesday of each month	None
FT. WORTH, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Wednesday evenings of each month	None
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Thursdays of each month	None
GRANITE SCHOOL DISTRICT, UTAH (Salt Lake City)	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	$600 a year + 10¢ a mile
NORFOLK, VA.	7	Appointed by city council	2 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	None
SEATTLE, WASH.	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	None
KANAWHA COUNTY, W. VA. (Charleston)	5	Self-nomination; primary election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second Thursday of each month	$40 a meeting, limited to 36 meetings a year

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 3--ENROLLMENT 25,000-49,999 (100 SYSTEMS)					
HUNTSVILLE, ALA., city schools	7	Appointed by city council	5 years	Second Tuesday evening of each month	None
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ALA. (Montgomery)	7	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	6 years	Fourth Thursday of each month	$7.50 a meeting
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA	7	Nomination by petition; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	$50 a meeting
PHOENIX, ARIZ.--Union High School District	5	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	5 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	None, except $75 for board member who serves as clerk
SCOTTSDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT, ARIZ. (Phoenix)	5	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	5 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	None
PULASKI COUNTY, ARK. (Little Rock)	8	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second Tuesday of each month	None
ANAHEIM, CALIF.--Union High School District	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Thursdays of each month, except only second Thursday of August and December	None
COMPTON, CALIF.	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every other Tuesday	None
FREMONT, CALIF.	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	None
HACIENDA LA PUENTE SCHOOL DISTRICT, CALIF. (La Puente)	5	Self-nomination; municipal election nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Thursdays of each month	None
HAYWARD, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Mondays of each month	None
MONTEBELLO, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	None
MT. DIABLO SCHOOL DISTRICT, CALIF. (Concord)	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	None
NEWPORT-MESA SCHOOL DISTRICT, CALIF. (Newport Beach)	7	Self-nomination; primary election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	None

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 3 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
NORWALK-LA MIRADA SCHOOL DISTRICT, CALIF. (Norwalk)	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Mondays of each month	None
ORANGE, CALIF.	7	Self-nomination; special or municipal election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	None, other than paid medical insurance
PASADENA, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination + approval in school board primary; special election, nonpartisan basis, unless elected by majority of voters in school board primary election.	4 years	Second, third, and fourth Tuesdays of each month	$10 a meeting, limited to $50 a month
RICHMOND, CALIF.	5	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month except July and December, when board meets once	None
RIVERSIDE, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Mondays of each month	None
SAN BERNARDINO, CALIF.	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	None
SAN JOSE, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	None
SANTA ANA, CALIF.	5	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	None
STOCKTON, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Tuesday evenings each month	None
TORRANCE, CALIF.	5	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	First and third Mondays of each month	None
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.	5	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second Tuesday of each month	None, except expenses for board-related travel
PUEBLO, COLO.	5	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	None

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 3 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
HARTFORD, CONN.	9	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	None
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLA. (Pensacola)	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	4 years	Second Tuesday of each month	$416.67 a month ($466.67 for chairman) + 10¢ a mile
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLA. (Crestview)	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	4 years	Second Tuesday of each month	$4000 a year
VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLA. (DeLand)	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	$4500 a year
BIBB COUNTY, GA. (Macon)	10 (eff. 1972)	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis (eff. 1972)	4 years	Third Thursday of each month	None
CHATHAM COUNTY, GA. (Savannah)	9	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	$100 a month
COBB COUNTY, GA. (Marietta)	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second Wednesday of each month	$50 a month
FULTON COUNTY, GA. (Atlanta)	5	Appointed by county grand jury	5 years	First Tuesday of each month	$100 a month + reimbursement for board-related expenses
RICHMOND COUNTY, GA. (Augusta)	16	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second Tuesday evening of each month	$2400 a year for president; $1800 for vice president; $1200 for other members
PEORIA, ILL.	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	5 years	First and third Mondays of each month	None
ROCKFORD, ILL.	7	Self-nomination and sponsorship by citizens education committee; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	Second and fourth Mondays of each month	None

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 3 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
EVANSVILLE-VANDERBURGH SCHOOL CORPORATION, IND. (Evansville)	7	5 appointed by mayor, 2 by judge of circuit court, usually from candidates recommended by screening committee	4 years	Twice a month (days not specified)	$200 a year
FT WAYNE, IND.	7	5 appointed by mayor, 2 by township trustees	4 years	Second and fourth Mondays of each month	None
GARY, IND.	5	Appointed by mayor from nominations by citizen screening committee	4 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	$500 a year
SOUTH BEND, IND.	7	4 appointed by mayor, 3 by judge of circuit court	4 years	First and third Mondays of each month (one afternoon, one evening)	$500 a year
DES MOINES, IOWA	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years at present; 4 years hereafter	First and third Tuesday afternoons each month	None
KANSAS CITY, KANS.	7	Nomination by petition + approval in primary; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	None
SHAWNEE MISSION, KANS.	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Mondays of each month	None
FAYETTE COUNTY, KY. (Lexington)	5	Nomination by petition; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Mondays of each month	$10 a meeting
CALCASIEU PARISH, LA. (Lake Charles)	19	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	First, third, and fourth Tuesdays of each month	$40 a meeting + 9¢ a mile
LAFAYETTE PARISH, LA. (Lafayette)	15	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, partisan basis	6 years	First and third Wednesdays of each month	$40 a meeting + 10¢ a mile
RAPIDES PARISH, LA. (Alexandria)	18	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	First Tuesday of each month	$40 a meeting + 9¢ a mile

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 3 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
HARFORD COUNTY, MD. (Bel Air)	7	Appointed by governor from recommendations of state senators, state central committee, and school board nominating caucus	5 years	First Wednesday morning and third Tuesday evening of each month	$100 a year for mileage
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.	6 + mayor who is chairman	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years (except mayor, who has 2-year term)	Every other Thursday, September to June; once in August	None
WORCESTER, MASS.	6 + mayor who is chairman	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	2 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	None
FLINT, MICH.	9	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	None
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.	9	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	First Monday of each month, September to May; first Tuesday following first Monday, June to August	None
LANSING, MICH.	9	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	None
LIVONIA, MICH.	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Two regular meetings and two study meetings per month (days not specified)	$600 a year
WARREN, MICH.	7	Nomination by petition; special election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	$250 a year
ANOKA-HENNEPIN SCHOOL DISTRICT, MINN. (Anoka)	6	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	Second and fourth Mondays of each month	None
BLOOMINGTON, MINN.	6 (7 in 1973)	Self-nomination + party endorsement; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	Second and fourth Mondays of each month	$15 a meeting, limited to $300 a year, + 10¢ a mile

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 3 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
ROBBINSDALE, MINN.	6	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	First and third Mondays of each month	$300 a year ($1100 additional for clerk and treasurer)
ST. PAUL, MINN.	7	Self-nomination + approval in primary; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	None
JACKSON, MISS.	5	Appointed by city council	5 years	Third Monday of each month	None
SPRINGFIELD, MO.	6	Nomination by petition; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second Wednesday evening of each month	None
LINCOLN, NEBR.	6	Self-nomination; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	Reimbursement for board-related expenses (amount not reported)
WASHOE COUNTY, NEV. (Reno)	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	None
JERSEY CITY, N. J.	9	Appointed by mayor	3 years	Second Wednesday of each month, September to June; also July 1	None
PATERSON, N. J.	9	Appointed by mayor	3 years	First Thursday of each month except August	None
ROCHESTER, N. Y.	7	Nomination by petition; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Thursdays of each month	$5000 a year ($7500 for president)
SYRACUSE, N. Y.	7	Nominated in party caucus; general election, partisan basis	4 years	Third Tuesday of each month	None
YONKERS, N. Y.	9	Appointed by mayor	5 years	First and second Thursdays each month, September to June	None
GASTON COUNTY, N. C. (Gastonia)	9	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Third Monday of each month	$15 a month
GREENSBORO, N. C., city schools	7	6 appointed by city council; 1 appointed by county board of education	4 years	Third Tuesday of each month	None

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 3 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
WAKE COUNTY, N. C. (Raleigh)	9	4 appointed by board of county commissioners, from recommendations of school advisory councils; 5 elected in general election, partisan basis, from those approved in primary	6 years	First Monday of each month	$25 a meeting + 10¢ a mile
WINSTON-SALEM/FORSYTH COUNTY, N. C. (Winston-Salem)	8	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years, limited to 2 terms	Second and fourth Monday of each month	$15 a meeting, limited to 3 meetings a month
PARMA, OHIO	5	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second and fourth Mondays of each month	$36 a year
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO	7	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Thursday afternoons of each month	$20 for regular meetings, limited to 12 meetings a year
RICHLAND COUNTY DISTRICT NO. 1, S.C. (Columbia)	7	2 appointed by Columbia Academy Board through state legislature; 5 elected in general election, partisan basis 3/	4 years	Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month	None
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., city schools	7	Self-perpetuating (members nominate individual who must be confirmed by city commission)	6 years	Second Wednesday of each month	$5 a meeting, limited to $100 a year
HAMILTON COUNTY, TENN. (Chattanooga)	7	Appointed by county court from nominations by a 25-member screening committee	7 years	Once a month throughout the year (day not specified)	$4 a meeting + actual expenses incurred

3/ The Columbia Academy Board was the board of directors for the Columbia Academy, which was the private school organization in Columbia. When public education was introduced in the district, the Academy went out of existence, but the Board remained for the purpose of administering the property of the Academy. The academy deeded its land and buildings to the public school district in exchange for the right to name in perpetuity two members of the board of school commissioners of the school district. This arrangement was dissolved by the 1971 state legislature session, but the matter is in litigation by the Academy Board. If litigation fails, all members of the board will be chosen by election after 1972. Also the 1972 election is the first time in which the Republican party will nominate in caucus candidates to run for the school board; previously all candidates were nominated in the Democratic primary. Thus, what was essentially a nonpartisan election will become partisan.

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
STRATUM 3 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)					
KNOXVILLE, TENN., city schools	9	Nomination by petition and approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Second Monday evening of each month	None
AMARILLO, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	First and third Mondays of each month	None
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Mondays of each month	None
LUBBOCK, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Third Thursday of each month	None
NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT, TEXAS (San Antonio)	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	Second and fourth Thursdays of each month	None
PASADENA, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	Third Thursday of each month	None
RICHARDSON, TEXAS	7	Self-nomination; special election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	First Monday of each month	None
DAVIS COUNTY, UTAH (Farmington)	5	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every other Tuesday	$500 a year
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	12	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Tuesdays of each month	$600 a year
HAMPTON, VA.	7	Appointed by city council	5 years, limited to 2 terms	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month (all day)	$600 a year + reimbursement for incidental board-related expenses
HENRICO COUNTY, VA. (Highland Springs)	5	Appointed by county board of supervisors	Indefinite; at will of board of supervisors	Fourth Thursday of each month	$3000 a year
NEWPORT NEWS, VA.	7	Appointed by city council	4 years, limited to 2 terms	Third Thursday of each month	$50 a month
PORTSMOUTH, VA.	9	Appointed by city council	3 years	Second Thursday of each month	None

SCHOOL BOARD DATA (Continued)

School system	No. of members	Method of selection	Length of term	Schedule of meetings	Compensation of members
1	2	3	4	5	6
		STRATUM 3 SCHOOL SYSTEMS (Continued)			
PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VA. (Manassas)	7	Appointed by board of county supervisors, which holds open hearings on nominations	4 years	First Wednesday morning and second, third, and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month	$3000 a year
RICHMOND, VA.	7	Appointed by city council	5 years	Third Thursday of each month	None
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.	11	Appointed by city council	3 years	Third Tuesday of each month	$600 a year
EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT, WASH. (Lynnwood)	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	First and third Mondays, September to June; third Monday in July and August	None
HIGHLINE SCHOOL DISTRICT, WASH. (Seattle)	5	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	4 years	Every other Wednesday	None
SPOKANE, WASH.	5	Self-nomination; general election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month	None
TACOMA, WASH.	5	Self-nomination + approval in primary; general election, nonpartisan basis	6 years	Second and fourth Thursday evenings of each month	None
MADISON, WIS.	7	Self-nomination + approval in primary; municipal election, nonpartisan basis	3 years	First and third Mondays, September to June; one meeting in July and August	None
RACINE, WIS.	9	Self-nomination + approval in primary; municipal election, partisan basis	3 years	Second Monday of each month (regular meeting); first Monday of each month (committee-of-the-whole)	None

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4. Cronin, Joseph M. "The Politics of School Board Elections." Phi Delta Kappan 46: 505-509; June 1965.

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6. Cunningham, Luvern L. "Executive Sessions and 'Informal' Meetings." American School Board Journal 146: 7-9; May 1963.

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7. Deffenbaugh, Walter S. "Practices and Concepts Relating to City Boards of Education." Biennial Survey of Education: 1938-40. Federal Security Agency, U. S. Office of Education. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1941. p. 5-6, 10-11.

Includes discussions of appointed vs. elected boards, election by wards, and size of boards.

8. Encyclopedia of Education. Volume 8. New York: Macmillan Company and Free Press, 1971. "School Boards," p. 47-82.

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9. Goldhammer, Keith. The School Board. Library of Education series. New York: Center for Applied Research in Education, 1964. 114 p.

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12. Hamilton, Robert R., and Reutter, E. Edmund Jr. Legal Aspects of School Board Operation. New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1958. 199 p.

Includes sections on the legal structure of the local school board; on the authority of boards in relation to pupils, curriculum, employees, property, school funds, and contractual relationships; on memberships and meetings; on procedure; and on the liability of board members.

13. Hurwitz, Mark W. "What Works Best: An Elected or An Appointed School Board?" American School Board Journal 159: 21-23; July 1972.

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Makes recommendations pertaining to election vs. appointment of board members, partisan vs. nonpartisan elections, compensation of board members, length of term, and number of members.

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A practical guide for conducting business of the board and the meeting itself; includes sample leaflets for public and board members to make meetings more effective.

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29. White, Alpheus L. Local School Boards: Organization and Practices. U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Office of Education, Bulletin 1962, No. 8. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1962. 103 p.

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Reports the problems faced by boardsmen as revealed in a survey conducted by the National School Boards Association.

Please print or type replies

Educational Research Service
February 1972

LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS

School system _____ State _____

Name and title of respondent _____

1. How many members are there on the board of education in your school system? _____

QUESTIONNAIRE FORM

2. Please supply the following breakdowns on the board members:

NUMBER BY SEX: _____ Male _____ Female

NUMBER BY RACE: _____ White _____ Black _____ Oriental _____ Spanish-speaking

_____ American Indian _____ Other nonwhite

NUMBER BY OCCUPATION: Please list occupations represented on the board and number of individuals in each occupation (e.g., 1 lawyer, 1 clergyman, 1 housewife)

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

3. How are members of the board of education selected?

☐ Appointed. (If appointed, please answer questions 4 and 5, and 8-17.)

☐ Elected on a partisan basis.

☐ Elected on a nonpartisan basis. } (If elected, please answer questions 6-17.)

FOR APPOINTED BOARDS ONLY

4. What official(s) or agency(ies) APPOINTS board members? _____

5. Is the official or agency assisted in the selection process by any official or informal body that submits recommendations for his consideration?

☐ No. ☐ Yes, by (please explain) _____

_____

FOR ELECTED BOARDS ONLY

6. How are candidates for ELECTION to the school board nominated (e.g., self-nomination, party caucus, self-nomination + approval in primary)?

_____

_____

7. In what type of election are board members ELECTED and when is this election held?

☐ Primary election held in _____

☐ General election held in _____

☐ Special school election held in _____

☐ Other, please specify _____

OVER →

8. For what length of term are board members elected or appointed? _____ years

9. Are terms of board members staggered? ☐ Or, do they run concurrently? ☐

10. Is there any limit to the number of consecutive terms a board member may serve?

☐ No. ☐ Yes, _____ terms.

11. Do board members serve as board members:

☐ From the district at large?

☐ From specific political or geographic subdivisions?

☐ Some from district at large, some from subdivisions?

QUESTIONNAIRE FORM

12. Who serves as secretary of the board (e.g., superintendent, board member, person specially hired)?

_____

13. Do board members receive any compensation (excluding expenses for out-of-town trips)?

☐ No compensation.

☐ Annual salary: $_____

☐ Monthly salary: $_____

☐ Set amount per meeting: $_____

☐ Mileage or other transportation (please specify): _____

☐ Amount for other board-related expenses: $_____ per _____.

☐ Other (please specify) _____

14. Are offices and clerical services furnished for individual members of the board?

☐ None ☐ Personally-assigned clerical help

☐ Individual offices ☐ One clerical person serving all members

☐ One office for all ☐ Clerical assistance provided when needed

15. What is the procedure for filling vacancies in unexpired terms on the board of education?

_____

_____

16. Is the board organized with standing committees? ☐ No. ☐ Yes. If Yes, please list below:

_____ _____

_____ _____

17. What is the schedule for regular board meetings (e.g., every other Tuesday, Sept.-June)?

_____

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